

Serial No.10/762,587
60130-2002
02MRA0149

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6, 8-12 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Adam et al. (5,528,093). The Examiner contends that the electronic housing 3 of Adam is a connector, and the claimed invention is anticipated by Adam. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claims 1, 6 and 8-11 are not anticipated. Adam does not disclose a gear reduction unit including a removable connector that supports a sensor and that carries current to an electric motor as claimed. Adam discloses a commutator motor including an electronic housing 3 clamped between a plastic motor housing 1 and a plastic gear housing 2. The electronic housing 3 does not carry current to an electric motor as claimed. Instead, the housing 3 simply houses electronics. Additionally, the electronic housing 3 does not support the sensor 8 of Adam. Instead, the printed circuit board 4 supports the sensor 8 (column 3, lines 49-51). Finally, the electronic housing 3 of Adam is not removably connected as claimed. The electronic housing 3 is clamped between a housing flange 1.1 of the plastic motor housing 1 and a housing flange 2.1 of the plastic gear housing 2 (column 3, lines 24 to 25) and therefore cannot be removed. The electronic housing 3 is not removable from the gear reduction unit as claimed. The claimed invention is not anticipated, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 12 and 14-16 are also not anticipated by Adam. Adam does not disclose a case that houses a printed circuit board as claimed. Adam discloses that the printed circuit board 4 is located between the electronic housing 3 and the housing flange 2.1 of the plastic gear housing 2. The printed circuit board 4 is not housed by the electronic housing 3 and is not even located in the electronic housing 3 (shown in Figure 1). Additionally, the sensor 8 of Adams is not offset relative to a plane formed by the printed circuit board 4. As shown in Figure 1, the sensor 8 is fixed against the printed circuit board 4 and is not offset relative to the printed circuit board 4. Finally, the electronic gear housing 3 is not a case as claimed as it is open on both sides. Adam does not disclose the claimed invention, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adam (5,528,093) in view of Santos et al. (4,987,415). Claims 2-5 depend on patentable independent claim 1 and are allowable for the reasons set forth above. Adding the distance of Santos to the door of Adam still does not disclose, suggest or teach the claimed invention because none of the references alone or in combination teaches a removable connector that supports a sensor and

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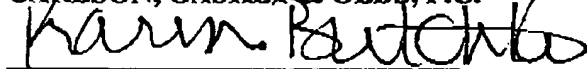
carries current to an electric motor. Therefore, the references together do not teach, suggest or disclose the claimed invention. The claimed invention is not obvious.

Claims 7 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adam (5,528,093) in view of Richeson (5,300,883). Claims 7 and 13 depend on patentable independent claims 1 and 12 and are allowable for the reasons set forth above. Adding the fasteners of Richeson to the door of Adam still does not disclose, suggest or teach the claimed invention because none of the references alone or in combination teaches a removable connector that supports a sensor and carries current to an electric motor. Therefore, the references together do not teach, suggest or disclose the claimed invention. The claimed invention is not obvious.

Thus, claims 1-17 are in condition for allowance. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.



Karin H. Butchko
Registration No. 45,864
400 West Maple Road, Suite 350
Birmingham, Michigan 48009
Telephone: (248) 988-8360
Facsimile: (248) 988-8363

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, (703) 872-9306 on June 29, 2005.



Amy Spaulding